

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-5 and add claims 6-10.

1-5. (Canceled).

6. (New). An installation for rolling a metal strip, comprising at least one reversing rolling mill stand (8); first (1) and second (6) unwinding reels for receiving, respectively, first (2) and second (7) coils of to-be-rolled first (3) and second (10) strips, respectively; an apparatus (4) for welding a beginning of one of the first and second strips (3, 10) with an end of another of the first and second strip (3, 10) and arranged downstream of the first and second reels (1, 6) and upstream of the rolling mill stand (8); a strip store (5) arranged between the welding apparatus (4) and the rolling mill stand (8); and a winding-up reel (9) arranged downstream of the rolling mill stand (8) for receiving a rolled strip.

7. (New). An installation according to claim 6, wherein the unwinding reels (1, 6) are simultaneously used as winding up reels for a pickling line located upstream.

8. (New). An installation according to claim 6, wherein the winding-up reel (9) is formed as one of a single reel and as a carousel reel.

9. (New). An installation according to claim 6, wherein a pickling line is integrated between the welding apparatus (4) and the strip store (5).

10. (New). A method of rolling a metal strip, comprising the steps of:
providing a strip rolling installation including at least one reversing rolling mill stand (8), first (1) and second (6) rewinding reels for receiving respectively, first (2) and second (7) coils of to-be-rolled first (3) and second (10) strips, respectively, an apparatus (4) for welding a beginning of one of the first and second strips (3, 10) with an end of another of the first and second strip (3, 10) and arranged downstream of the first and second reels (1, 6) and upstream of the rolling mill stand (8), a strip store (5) arranged between the welding apparatus (4) and the rolling mill stand (8), and a winding-up reel (9) arranged downstream of the rolling mill stand (8) for receiving a rolled strip;

unwinding one of the first and second strips (3, 10) from a respective one of the first and second coils (2, 7);

feeding the one of the first and second strips (3, 10) into the rolling mill stand (8);

rolling the one of the first and second strips (3, 10) in the rolling mill stand (8);

winding the rolled one of the first and second strips (3, 10) onto the winding-up reel (9);

reversibly conveying the one of the first and second strips (3, 10) between a respective one of the first and second unwinding reels (1, 6) and the winding-up reel (9) until a set strip thickness is reached; and welding a beginning of another of the first and second strips (3, 10) to an end of the one of the first and second strips (3, 10) before a last pass of the one of the first and second strips (3, 10) through the rolling mill stand (3), while actuating the strip store (5) to bridge a time span associated with welding of the beginning of the another of the first and second strips (3, 10) with the end of the one of the first and second strips (3, 10).